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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

Financing of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti

Fourth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/48/27), which provides information on the financial performance of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti (MICIVIH) for the period from 1 February to 31 December 1993 and the cost estimates for MICIVIH for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1994. During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General who provided additional information to the Committee.

2. The Secretary-General estimates the cost for the period 1 January to 31 March 1994 at $5,936,400. Annexes IV and V to the Secretary-General's report provide a summary statement and supplementary information in respect of this estimate.

3. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 8 of the Secretary-General's report that, on the basis of the agreement entered into between the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United Nations, the latter would be fully responsible for costs of local staff engaged by the United Nations and by OAS, while OAS would assume full responsibility for the costs of all office accommodation, utilities and commercial communication required by the joint mission. This explains why the number of local level posts indicated in annex V to the Secretary-General's report under temporary posts is 254, instead of the previously authorized number of 127 which appears in annex I to the same report.

4. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 14 of the Secretary-General's report that although MICIVIH has suspended operation in Haiti since 15 October 1993 and evacuated international and national staff to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (except for a small core group), the cost estimates for MICIVIH for the period 1 January to 31 March 1994 were prepared on the assumption that the normal work would resume in Haiti at the beginning of December.

5. It is the view of the Advisory Committee that the events that have taken place in Haiti since 15 October 1993 will affect the operation of MICIVIH for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1994. For example, it is doubtful that all of the 188 international staff would be deployed as of 1 January 1994. It is also doubtful that, given the present circumstances, consultants would be required during that period. The implementation of public information and human rights education also assumes a normal operation of the mission which at this stage is questionable.

6. Taking into account its observations, the Committee recommends that the estimate of $4 million for MICIVIH should be approved for the period 1 January to 31 March 1994. Should the mission continue beyond 31 March 1994 and/or developments occur between January and March which require more resources, the Secretary-General could seek the concurrence of the Advisory Committee to enter into related commitments under the terms of the General Assembly resolution to be adopted on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1994-1995.